social hygiene news

ASHA

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U. S. Army Pho

Chaplain (Col.) James B. Murphy, First U. S. Army Chaplain, is shown talking with members of the American Social Hygiene Association at a dinner given in his honor by ASHA at the Fort Jay Officers Club, Governor's Island, on January 6th. Pictured from left to right are: Conrad Van Hyning, ASHA executive director; Edward G. Conroy, New Rochelle, N. Y., city manager; Chaplain Murphy; and Dr. Bruce Webster, chairman of ASHA's executive committee.

Georgia Uses New VD Casefinding Device

A new casefinding device for syphilis called "cluster testing" (see chart) is yielding dramatic results in Georgia.

Between July 1, 1956, and June 30, 1957, cluster testing from interviews of 285 patients with primary and secondary syphilis enabled Georgia VD workers to bring to treatment an additional 153 primary and secondary syphilis cases and 82 other cases of syphilis. In addition, the new method enabled the Georgia health workers to return 115 syphilis cases to needed treatment.

The technique involved is designed to widen the area of productive investigation and, at the same time, to direct the blood testing operation more surely to infectious individuals.

An interviewer dicusses with a patient his sex partners or contacts. The patient names and describes these on the assurance that they will be given courteous and confidential care by the health department, if they desire it and are found to need it. The patient is then asked if there are any among his immediate acquaintances who, he

(Continued on page 2)

Chaplain Awarded Life Membership

An Honorary Life Membership in ASHA was awarded to Col. James B. Murphy, U. S. Army Chaplain, at a dinner ceremony on Governor's Island, N. Y., on Monday, January 6th. The award was presented to Chaplain Murphy by Edward G. Conroy, New Rochelle (N. Y.) city manager and member of the Board of Directors of ASHA.

The ASHA award was given to Chaplain Murphy in recognition of his work in the development of the Army's Character Guidance Program, which emphasizes the importance of the Army's role in providing Service personnel with decent physical and moral surroundings.

"To say that Chaplain Murphy and his colleagues worked hand in hand with ASHA is no exaggeration," states the citation. "We found in him a reliable guide to our work with communities near military installations or heavily frequented by off-duty military personnel. Ours was a partnership based on mutual respect, common ideals and an ever-ready willingness on Chaplain Murphy's part to act as advisor and friend in the Association's efforts to serve the Armed Forces."

Born in Boston in 1909, Chaplain Murphy attended public school in Somerville, Mass., and received his A.B. degree from Boston College in 1930. Upon completing his undergraduate work, he decided to become a priest and was ordained in 1936.

During World War II Chaplain Murphy saw long service in the Southwest Pacific theater. He was recommended for the Legion of Merit and awarded the Bronze Star Medal "for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy in the Southwest Pacific Area from 1 March 1944 to 15 August 1945."

After the war Chaplain Murphy

(Continued on page 3)

Reviews of Films on Family Problems

Borderline (Nat. Film Board of Canada; 27 minutes, 16 mm.) deals with the problem of an adolescent girl who becomes "too much of a handful" for her parents to control and is on the borderline between becoming a useful citizen or a delinquent.

From Ten to Twelve (Nat. Film Board of Canada; 26 minutes, 16 mm.) portrays the emotional and physical development of children from ten to twelve years.

Kid Brother (Mental Health Film Board; 27 minutes, 16 mm.) is the story of a "normal" teenager who attempts to gain sympathy and understanding and suffers anger and frustration in this effort.

Night Children (Nat. Film Board of Canada; 27 minutes, 16 mm.) casts an actress in the role of a youngster found wandering on a Toronto street late at night. A caseworker helps the child and the family to improve their situation.

Six, Seven and Eight Year-Olds (Vassar College Department of Child Study; 27 minutes, 16 mm.) is a presentation of the lives of youngsters in our culture. Action and sound are spontaneous and unrehearsed.

Back Into the Sun (Nat. Film Board of Canada; 27 minutes, 16 mm.) portrays the mental illness of a young girl and her steps toward recovery at the unique Day Hospital of Allan Memorial Institute in Montreal, Canada.

Boy in the Doorway (Bellefaire; 28 minutes, 16 mm.) concerns a boy who has withdrawn from the world of reality. The film shows how the boy recovers with the help of casework and psychiatric treatment at Bellefaire, in Cleveland, Ohio.

Explanatory note: While the above films are not handled by ASHA, our Division of Public Information can provide interested persons with information about how to obtain them.

Positions Open

Social Hygiene Society Executive: Position available for executive secretary of a New England local society. Experience necessary in administrative and/or executive capacity in social hygiene or related field.

Educational Assistant: Local social hygiene society located in Midwest requires a woman to assist executive secretary with educational program. Position demands a background in the social hygiene field, broadly conceived, or in such related areas as family life education, public health, mental hygiene, social work and teaching.

Interested applicants are asked to write to Conrad Van Hyning, executive director, ASHA, for further details,

Casefinding

(Continued from page 1)

suspects, may be infected with a venereal disease. He is encouraged to name them, again on the assurance of courteous and confidential help if they want it and need it. And finally, he is encouraged to name his associates, whether he suspects that they may be infected or not, on the same terms.

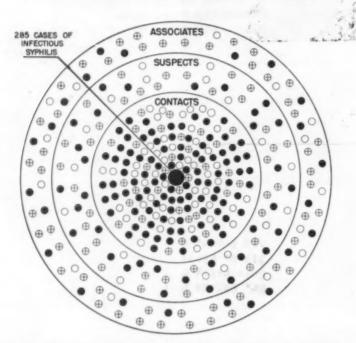
The cluster-testing technique is based on the assumption that a venereal disease patient is a likely index to other infected persons, whether or not he has had sexual contact with them. The company he keeps may be expected to have parallel experience with comparable results.

From the illustration it is easily seen that if the interviews had been restricted only to the sexual partners of the initial 285 patients, the total yield in cases would have been considerably less.

In the second circle labelled "suspects" there are 86 additional patients who were brought to treatment—33 of them with primary and secondary syphilis. In the third circle labelled "associates" there are an additional 85 patients brought to treatment, 23 of which had primary and secondary syphilis.

This process differs radically from the chain of infection concept which limited investigation to actual sexual contacts of syphilis patients. The Georgia Health Department is to be congratulated for a successful pioneering venture in VD casefinding.

RESULTS OF CLUSTER TESTING OF 285 CASES OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SYPHILIS



- 153 PRIMARY & SECONDARY SYPHILIS CASES BROUGHT TO TREATMENT
- O 82 OTHER SYPHILIS CASES BROUGHT TO TREATMENT
- @ 115 SYPHILIS CASES RETURNED TO TREATMENT

Haverford Professor Addresses Assembly

"We are dealing with a social world in trouble," declared Dr. Ira DeA. Reid, chairman, Department of Sociology, Haverford College, in an address at the closing session of the annual meeting of the National Social Welfare Assembly on December 13 in New York City.

"The gap between preferences and reality," said Dr. Reid, "challenges the existence of things as they are."

Dr. Reid outlined nine areas of particular moment to social welfare: The new migrations; conservation of resources; power; transportation and housing; public education; medical care and medical education; the changing patterns of organized labor; the demand for equality; the demand for a stable social dollar; and the realignment of government at the operating, functional level rather than a national level.

More than 200 professional and lay leaders in social welfare attended the closing luncheon of the Assembly.

Gen. William H. Maglin, Provost Marshal, Dies

Major General William H. Maglin, former Provost Marshal, First U. S. Army, died on January 10th.

General Maglin, long a friend and supporter of ASHA, was the recipient of the Association's William Freeman Snow Medal, which had been presented to him on October 10, 1956.

A graduate of West Point, General Maglin served as Provost Marshal of the Allied Forces in North Africa during World War II.

Award

(Continued from page 1)

spent two years in Europe, where he made notable and successful efforts to improve conditions between the Army and the civilian populations. For his efforts he received special recognition from both the German and Polish authorities.

From 1955 until 1957 Chaplain Murphy was Assistant Commandant, U. S. Army Chaplain School.



Some of ASHA's regional directors discussing the Association's program with members of the headquarters' staff at a workshop held from December 9 through 20. From left to right are: Lewis R. Barrett, New England regional director; Frank McFall, Southeastern regional director; Philip S. Akre, Central Atlantic family life consultant; Howard M. Slutes, Southwestern regional director; Charles Messner, associate director, Division of Education; and T. Lefoy Richman, ASHA's associate executive director.

Family Life Lines

The northeastern Vermont area of the New England Family Life Education Project laid the groundwork for a tri-college family life program at a meeting on November 21. This meeting was held for the purpose of stimulating more definite college-community cooperation in dealing with problems of mutual concern. . . . The Virginia participants of the Central Atlantic Teacher Preparation Project sponsored a meeting of college representatives on December 12. Fourteen colleges were represented at this meeting, which was also attended by three officials of the Virginia State Department of Education. . . . Dr. Eugene E. Garbee, president of Upper Iowa University, has replaced Dean Harlan Hagman, of Drake University, as a member of the Midwest Project Executive Committee. . . . Dr. Paul J. Hanson, superintendent of schools, Little Falls, Minn., has prepared a guide for superintendents which indicates steps which can be taken to institute family life education programs in school systems. . . . More than 3,000 project guides in family life education were distributed during 1957 to educators and others in 291 cities in this country and 23 cities in 14 U.S. territories and foreign lands. . . . Members of the staff of ASHA's Division of Education made a total of 125 visits to 65 communities in 29 states during 1957. Some of these visits were made to communities outside the project regions. . . . Dr. David Fulcomer, ASHA family life education consultant in the Midwest Project Area, discussed the Association's family life education program and materials at a meeting of the Iowa Council of Family Relations, at Grinnell, Iowa, on December 11. . . . Mrs. Elizabeth S. Force visited Charlotte, N. C., from February 3 through 12 in order to consult with faculty and staff members of the Charlotte public schools.

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Mr. Eugene 8. Power University Microfilms 313 N. First Street Ann Arbor, Michigan

Social Hygiene Mews

Conroy Speaker at ASHA Award Dinner

"Grave concern has been experienced in many quarters regarding not only the vulnerability of our once virtually impregnable United States to attack... but also for the grave deficiencies which appear to exist in our organization for defense, and in our educational methods and systems in relation to those strengths found in Russian armaments and in Russian educational attainments."

This warning was issued by Edward G. Conroy, New Rochelle, N. Y., city manager, in his address at the recent ceremony honoring Chaplain James B. Murphy.

Mr. Conroy made a plea for the strengthening of social and educational institutions.

"To an extent which," he said, "is incalculably far in excess of the amount of funds available to its staffing and programming, the American Social Hygiene Association has, throughout its more than forty years of existence, exerted a most profound influence in preserving and strengthening our American democracy."

"As our Association grows stronger, we look forward . . . to the opportunity of working more effectively . . . with the citizens of an increasingly larger number of communities."

Book Review Corner

Childhood and Adolescence, by L. J. Stone and Joseph Church (Random House, 456 pp., \$6.50) is an outstanding new book in the field of child behavior. The volume, written by two members of the Vassar College faculty, describes how children develop, think, learn, feel and react. The authors also present a good statement of the meaning of maturity. The book is particularly good for parents.

The Proof of the Pudding: What Children Read, by Phyllis Fenner (John Day, 246 pp., \$3.95) presents a description of the kinds of books children read and like. Written by a public school librarian, the volume contains suggestions for bringing children and books together. There is a well-selected bibliography of recent and classic books for children.

Understanding Your Parents, by Dr. Ernest O. Osborne (Association Press, 122 pp., \$1.75) is addressed to young people, but contains material which would be of benefit to parents. This book discusses the questions of teenagers and their reports of specific problems in family living. It is informal in style and most readable.

Problems of Family Life, edited by Maxwell S. Stewart (Harper and Bros., 227 pp., \$3.50) is a collection of articles previously published by the Public Affairs Committee in pamphlet form. Those who have read the individual pamphlets will welcome this publication for its clarity of style and use of everyday language in describing various problems of personal and family living.

How Firm a Foundation? (Harvard University Press, 42 pp., \$1.50) is the subject of a lecture by Professor Hollis L. Caswell on some of the problems confronting elementary education. The treatise is of interest to parents and educators who have been concerned with the quality of good teaching. In addition to a number of penetrating observations about elementary education, the book offers suggestions about the future.

Marriage in the Modern World, by Phillip Polatin, M.D., and Ellen C. Philtine (Lippincott, 313 pp., \$3.95) is a treatment of marriage as a personal relationship involving unique individuals. The book covers sexual attitudes and behavior, parent-child relationships, economic and emotional aspects, preparation for marriage, and an analysis of various problems, including divorce.